



Attorney Docket No. 0756-2433

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.

Serial No. 10/072,931

Filed: February 12, 2002

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

) Group Art Unit: 2812

) Examiner: Stanetta D. Isaac

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
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2006.

Adelle M. Stampor

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

*Please Enter SPT
9/18/06*

Dear Sir:

The Official Action mailed May 5, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on April 5, 2002; October 30, 2002; November 11, 2004; and February 24, 2006.

Claims 1-80 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 10, 46-49, 66, 67 and 78 are independent. Claims 1-9, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74 and 76 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner (page 2, Paper No. 0406). Accordingly, claims 10, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75 and 77-85 are currently elected, of which claims 10, 47, 49, 67 and 78 are independent. For the reasons set